




Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Office of Medicaid
600 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02111
www.mass.gov/masshealth



Eligibility Operations Memo 04-11
November 1, 2004

TO: MassHealth Eligibility Operations Staff

FROM: Russ Kulp, Deputy Director, MassHealth Operations 

RE: **Children's Medical Security Plan and the Healthy Start Program**

Introduction

Effective October 1, 2004, MassHealth assumed responsibility for the Children's Medical Security Plan (CMSP) and the Healthy Start Program (HSP) from the Department of Public Health. At that time, the program rules were modified and individuals can apply for either program by completing a Medical Benefits Request (MBR) form. Automatic referrals are made to Unicare, the contractor responsible for enrollment of MassHealth members into these programs.

Members will receive a MassHealth card and an approval letter describing the new benefit, as well as a letter and a card from Unicare.

CMSP/HSP

The Children's Medical Security Plan (CMSP) provides coverage to uninsured children under the age of 19 who do not qualify for any other MassHealth coverage, other than MassHealth Limited. Regulations for CMSP are at 130 CMR 522.004.

The Healthy Start Program (HSP) provides coverage to pregnant women who are not eligible for MassHealth Standard due to their immigration status. Regulations for HSP are at 130 CMR 522.005. Eligibility Operations Memo 03-15 addressed the Healthy Start Program.

MA-21 Categories of Assistance

Effective October 1, 2004, new categories of assistance were established for CMSP and HSP. The new MA-21 categories of assistance are:

- **CL-Limited** plus CMSP
 - **CM-CMSP** benefits only
 - **HL-Limited** plus Healthy Start
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CMSP Premiums

Premiums for CMSP are determined by comparing the gross family group income to the applicable income level.

% of Federal Poverty Level	Premium
Less than or equal to 150%	No monthly charge
Above 150% to 200%	\$10.50 per child per month; family group maximum \$31.50 per month
Above 200% to 400%	\$45.32 per family group per month
Above 400%	\$52.50 per child per month

Members who fail to pay the CMSP premium may be terminated from MassHealth. A new action reason, **AR 17**, has been established to terminate or deny eligibility because the member has not paid the CMSP premium.

MEC and Unicare Responsibilities

MEC customer service staff is responsible for member eligibility-related issues.

Unicare customer service staff is responsible for any premium-related activities and claims-related issues.

The Unicare Customer Service telephone number is 1-888-488-9161.

Questions

If you have any questions about this memo, please have your MEC designee contact the Policy Hotline at 617-210-5331.
